United Nations E/CN.6/2010/1

Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General
18 December 2009

Original: English

Commission on the Status of Women
Fifty-fourth session
1-12 March 2010
Item 2 of the provisional agenda
Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters

Annotated provisional agenda and proposed organization of work*

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.
3. Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and to the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century":
   (a) Implementation of strategic objectives and action in critical areas of concern and further actions and initiatives: review of the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session and its contribution to shaping a gender perspective in the realization of the Millennium Development Goals;
   (b) Emerging issues, trends and new approaches to issues affecting the situation of women or equality between women and men;
   (c) Gender mainstreaming, situations and programmatic matters.
4. Communications concerning the status of women.
5. Follow-up to Economic and Social Council resolutions and decisions.
6. Provisional agenda for the fifty-fifth session of the Commission.
7. Adoption of the report of the Commission on its fifty-fourth session.

* The proposed organization of work will be issued as E/CN.6/2010/1/Add.1.

09-64400 (E) 211209

Please recycle

Annotations

1. Election of officers

In accordance with rule 15 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council, and pursuant to Council resolution 1987/21 and decision 2002/234, the Commission on the Status of Women, at the 1st meeting of its fifty-fourth session, on 13 March 2009, elected, by acclamation, Armen Martirosyan (Armenia) as Chairperson and Leysa Sow (Senegal), Roberto Storaci (Italy) and Takashi Ashiki (Japan) as Vice-Chairpersons of the fifty-fourth and fifty-fifth sessions of the Commission. On 14 October 2009, at the second meeting of the fifty-fourth session of the Commission, and following the resignation of Armen Martirosyan, the Commission elected, by acclamation, Garen Nazarian (Armenia) as Chairperson for the remainder of the fifty-fourth and for the fifty-fifth session. The Commission also elected Julio Peralta (Paraguay) as Vice-Chairperson for the fifty-fourth and fifty-fifth sessions.[1]

The Commission will appoint three candidates to fill the pending vacancies in the Working Group on Communications on the Status of Women established in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1983/27.

2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters

Rule 7 of the rules of procedure provides that the Commission shall, at the beginning of each session, adopt the agenda of that session on the basis of the provisional agenda.

The provisional agenda and documentation for the fifty-fourth session of the Commission were approved by the Economic and Social Council in its decision 2009/232.

Preparations for the fifty-fourth session of the Commission were undertaken in accordance with its agreed conclusions 1996/1 on methods of work, Economic and Social Council resolutions 2006/9 and 2009/15 and Commission resolution 53/1. Accordingly, the Bureau of the Commission held several meetings as well as informal consultations with all member and observer States of the Commission on the modalities of the review, with a view to agreeing on its format and outcome.

Following past practice, statements delivered by representatives of delegations of members and observers of the Commission during general discussions shall be limited to five minutes, and statements made on behalf of groups of delegations to 10 minutes. It is also recommended that interventions from non-governmental organizations be integrated into the general debate and the thematic panel discussions, taking into consideration geographical balance.

By its decision 64/530 of 18 December 2009, the General Assembly decided to hold the commemorative meeting to mark the fifteenth anniversary of the adoption of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action during the fifty-fourth session of the Commission on the Status of Women.

[1] The list of members of the Commission at its fifty-fourth session is contained in the annex to the present document.

3. Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and to the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century"

(a) Implementation of strategic objectives and action in critical areas of concern and further actions and initiatives: review of the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session and its contribution to shaping a gender perspective in the realization of the Millennium Development Goals

High-level round table

In its decision 46/101, the Commission decided that, starting from its forty-seventh session, it would introduce the option of high-level round tables, and it authorized the Bureau, after consultation with all interested members of the Commission through the regional groups, to decide on the number, timing and theme of such round tables.

In its resolution 2006/9, the Economic and Social Council further decided that the annual interactive high-level round table would focus on experiences, lessons learned and good practices, including results with supporting data, where available, in relation to the implementation of previous commitments made with regard to the priority theme.

The high-level round table at the fifty-fourth session will focus on the impact of the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action on the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals.

Documentation

Note by the Bureau of the Commission on the Status of Women: discussion guide for the high-level round table on the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly and its contribution to shaping a gender perspective in the realization of the Millennium Development Goals (E/CN.6/2010/3)

Priority theme

In its resolution 2009/15, the Economic and Social Council endorsed the Commission's proposed future organization and methods of work. Accordingly, at its fifty-fourth session, the Commission will review the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly and its contribution to shaping a gender perspective in the realization of the Millennium Development Goals.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the review of the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly and its contribution to shaping a gender perspective in the realization of the Millennium Development Goals (E/CN.6/2010/2)

(b) Emerging issues, trends and new approaches to issues affecting the situation of women or equality between women and men

In its resolution 2006/9, the Economic and Social Council requested the Bureau of the Commission, prior to each session, to identify, in consultation with all States, through their regional groups, an emerging issue for consideration by the Commission, taking into account developments at the global and regional levels as well as planned activities within the United Nations, where increased attention to gender perspectives was required. In view of the Commission's review of the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly and its contribution to shaping a gender perspective in the realization of the Millennium Development Goals, no emerging issue was selected for consideration.

(c) Gender mainstreaming, situations and programmatic matters

Situation of and assistance to Palestinian women

In its resolution 2009/14 on the situation of and assistance to Palestinian women, the Economic and Social Council requested the Commission to continue to monitor and take action with regard to the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women, in particular paragraph 260 concerning Palestinian women and children, the Beijing Platform for Action and the outcomes of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly. It also requested the Secretary-General to continue to review the situation, to assist Palestinian women by all available means and to submit to the Commission at its fifty-fourth session a report, including information provided by the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia, on the progress made in the implementation of that resolution.

Release of women and children taken hostage, including those subsequently imprisoned, in armed conflicts

In its resolution 52/1, the Commission expressed its strong belief that the rapid and unconditional release of women and children taken hostage in areas of armed conflict would promote the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action and the outcome documents of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly. The Commission requested the Secretary-General to submit to the Commission at its fifty-fourth session a report on the implementation of the resolution, including relevant recommendations, taking into account the information provided by States and relevant international organizations.

Ending female genital mutilation

In its resolution 52/2, the Commission requested the Secretary-General to report to it at its fifty-fourth session on the implementation of the resolution by using information provided by Member States and verifiable information provided by organizations and bodies of the United Nations system and by non-governmental organizations, with a view to assessing the impact of the resolution on the well-being of girls.

Joint workplan on the human rights of women

In accordance with resolution 39/5 of the Commission on the Status of Women, resolution 1997/43 of the Commission on Human Rights and resolution 6/30 of the Human Rights Council, the Commission on the Status of Women will have before it a report on the joint workplan of the Division for the Advancement of Women and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights.

Violence against women

In resolution 50/166 on the role of the United Nations Development Fund for Women in eliminating violence against women, the General Assembly requested the Fund to include in its regular reports information on the establishment of a trust fund in support of national, regional and international actions to eliminate violence against women and to provide such information to the Commission on the Status of Women and the (former) Commission on Human Rights.

Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women

In accordance with article 21.2 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, the reports of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women are transmitted to the Commission for information. The report of the Committee on its forty-second and forty-third sessions[2] will be before the Commission. A note by the Secretariat transmitting the results of the Committee's forty-fourth and forty-fifth sessions will also be before the Commission.

Programme matters

The Commission will have before it for its consideration a note by the Secretary-General on the preparation of the strategic framework for the period 2012-2013, comprising part one: plan outline, and part two: biennial programme plan. The Commission is invited to review the proposed biennial programme plan for gender equality and the empowerment of women and provide its comments to the Secretary-General. The proposed biennial programme plan, modified as appropriate, will be submitted to the Committee for Programme and Coordination at its fiftieth session. Its recommendations thereon will be transmitted to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session when it considers the Secretary-General's proposed strategic framework for the biennium 2012-2013.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the situation of and assistance to Palestinian women (E/CN.6/2010/4)

Report of the Secretary-General on the release of women and children taken hostage, including those subsequently imprisoned, in armed conflicts (E/CN.6/2010/5)

Report of the Secretary-General on ending female genital mutilation (E/CN.6/2010/6)

[2] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 38* (A/64/38).

Report on the joint workplan of the Division for the Advancement of Women and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (A/HRC/13/17-E/CN.6/2010/7

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the United Nations Development Fund for Women on the activities of the Fund to eliminate violence against women (E/CN.6/2010/8)

Note by the Secretary-General on the strategic framework for the biennium 2012-2013: Subprogramme 2, Gender issues and advancement of women (E/CN.6/2010/CRP.1)

Documents for information

Note by the Secretariat transmitting the results of the forty-fourth and forty-fifth sessions of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (E/CN.6/2010/CRP.2)

Report of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women on its forty-second and forty-third sessions (A/64/38)

4. Communications concerning the status of women

In its resolution 76 (V), the Economic and Social Council established a procedure by which the Commission would receive and consider communications relating to the status of women. In its resolution 304 I (XI), the Council amended resolution 76 (V) and requested the Secretary-General to compile, before each session of the Commission, a list of confidential and non-confidential communications, containing a brief indication of the substance of each communication.

In its resolution 1983/27, the Council reaffirmed the mandate of the Commission to consider confidential and non-confidential communications on the status of women and authorized the Commission to appoint a working group to consider such communications and prepare a report thereon for the Commission.

In its resolution 1993/11, the Council reaffirmed that the Commission was empowered to make recommendations to the Council on what action should be taken on emerging trends and patterns of discrimination against women revealed by such communications.

In its decision 2002/235, the Council decided, in order to make the communications procedure of the Commission more effective and efficient:

(a) That the Commission, starting at its forty-seventh session, should appoint, at each session, the members of the Working Group on Communications on the Status of Women for the next session so that the members would be able to meet to enable the Secretariat to issue their report three working days before the adoption of the agenda by the Commission;

(b) To request the Secretary-General:

(i) To inform Governments about each communication pertaining to them that would be considered by the Commission and give them at least 12 weeks before the consideration of such communications by the Working Group;

(ii) To ensure that the members of the Working Group receive in advance the lists of communications, including replies from Governments, if any, to be taken into account in preparing its report for examination by the Commission.

In its resolution 2009/16, the Economic and Social Council decided, in order to make the communications procedure of the Commission more effective and efficient, that the Commission, starting at its fifty-fourth session, should appoint the members of the Working Group on Communications on the Status of Women for a two-year period.

At the 17th meeting of its fifty-third session, on 13 March 2009, the Commission appointed Koh Sang-Wook (Republic of Korea) and Kadra Ahmed Hassan (Djibouti) to serve on the Working Group for the fifty-fourth session of the Commission. The appointment of the remaining three members of the Working Group was deferred to the fifty-fourth session of the Commission, on the understanding that, upon nomination by their respective regional groups, the nominees would be permitted to participate fully in the proceedings of the Working Group.

Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the list of confidential communications concerning the status of women (E/CN.6/2010/SW/COMM.LIST/44/R and Add.1)

5. Follow-up to Economic and Social Council resolutions and decisions

The Commission will have before it a letter from the President of the Economic and Social Council on follow-up to the Council's policy recommendations.

Documentation

Letter dated 19 November 2009 from the President of the Economic and Social Council to the Chairperson of the Commission on the Status of Women (E/CN.6/2010/9)

6. Provisional agenda for the fifty-fifth session of the Commission

In accordance with rule 9 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Council, the Commission will have before it a draft provisional agenda for its fifty-fifth session, including the list of documents to be submitted for its consideration.

7. Adoption of the report of the Commission on its fifty-fourth session

In accordance with rule 37 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Council, the Commission shall submit to the Council a report on the work of its fifty-fourth session.

Annex

Membership of the Commission on the Status of Women at its fifty-fourth session (2010)

(45 members; four-year term)

Membership	*Term expires at close of session in the year*
Armenia	2011
Azerbaijan	2011
Belarus	2013
Belgium	2011
Brazil	2010
Cambodia	2011
Cameroon	2010
China	2012
Colombia	2013
Cuba	2012
Djibouti	2010
Dominican Republic	2012
Ecuador	2010
Eritrea	2012
Gabon	2011
Germany	2013
Guinea	2013
Haiti	2012
India	2012
Indonesia	2010
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	2010
Iraq	2013
Israel	2013
Italy	2013
Japan	2013

Membership	*Term expires at close of session in the year*
Lesotho	2010
Malaysia	2010
Mauritania	2013
Mexico	2010
Namibia	2011
Nicaragua	2013
Niger	2011
Pakistan	2011
Paraguay	2011
Republic of Korea	2010
Russian Federation	2012
Rwanda	2013
Senegal	2012
Spain	2011
Sweden	2012
Togo	2010
Turkey	2011
United Arab Emirates	2010
United States of America	2012
Zambia	2010